Verastem Announces Presentations at the 2013 AACR-NCI-EORTC International Conference

October 10, 2013

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 10, 2013-- Verastem, Inc. (NASDAQ:VSTM), focused on discovering and developing drugs to treat cancer by the targeted killing of cancer stem cells, today announced scheduled poster presentations at the 2013 AACR-NCI-EORTC International Conference on Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics which is taking place October 19-23, 2013 in Boston.

Title: Phase 1/1b Study of the FAK Inhibitor Defactinib (VS-6063) in Combination with Weekly Paclitaxel for Advanced Ovarian Cancer
Abstract #: 937
Date and Time: Sunday, Oct 20, 2013 12:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Session: Poster Session A; Clinical Trials 1
Location: Exhibit Hall C-D

Title: Defactinib (VS-6063) Targets Cancer Stem Cells Directly and Through Inhibition of Tumor-Associated Macrophages and Cytokine Production
Abstract #: 863
Date and Time: Monday, Oct 21, 2013 12:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Session: Poster Session B; Therapeutic Agents: Small Molecule Kinase Inhibitors 2
Location: Exhibit Hall C-D

Title: Malignant Mesothelioma Lacking Merlin Shows Enhances Sensitivity to the FAK Inhibitor Defactinib (VS-6063): Elucidation of the Merlin-FAK Relationship
Abstract #: 765
Date and Time: Tuesday, Oct 22, 2013 12:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Session ID: Poster Session C; Therapeutic Agents: Small Molecule Kinase Inhibitors 3
Location: Exhibit Hall C-D

Title: Merlin Loss as a Biomarker for Defactinib (VS-6063) Sensitivity: High Frequency in Malignant Mesothelioma Tumors
Abstract #: 848
Date and Time: Sunday, Oct 20, 2013 12:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Session ID: Poster Session A; Biomarkers
Location: Exhibit Hall C-D

Title: FAK Inhibitor Defactinib (VS-6063) Enhances the Efficacy of Paclitaxel and Preferentially Targets Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells
Abstract #: 899
Date and Time: Tuesday, Oct 22, 2013 12:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Session ID: Poster Session C; Therapeutic Agents: Small Molecule Kinase Inhibitors 3
Location: Exhibit Hall C-D

Title: Dual mTORC1/2 and PI3K Inhibitor VS-5584 Preferentially Targets Cancer Stem Cells
Abstract #: 889
Date and Time: Monday, Oct 21, 2013 12:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Session ID: Poster Session B; Cancer Stem Cells 2
Location: Exhibit Hall C-D

About Defactinib

Defactinib (VS-6063) is an oral compound designed to target cancer stem cells through the potent inhibition of focal adhesion kinase (FAK). Cancer stem cells are an underlying cause of tumor resistance to chemotherapy, recurrence and ultimate disease progression. Research by Robert Weinberg, Ph.D., scientific cofounder and chair of Verastem's Scientific Advisory Board, and Verastem has demonstrated that the FAK pathway is critical for the growth and survival of cancer stem cells. Defactinib is currently being studied in the registration-directed COMMAND trial in mesothelioma, a Phase 1/1b study in combination with weekly paclitaxel in ovarian cancer, a Phase 1 study in Japan and a Phase 2 trial in KRAS-mutated Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer. Defactinib has been granted orphan drug designation in the U.S. and E.U. for use in mesothelioma.

About VS-5584

VS-5584 is an orally available compound that has demonstrated potent and highly selective in vitro inhibitory activity against mTORC1, mTORC2 and the class 1 PI3K isoforms. In preclinical studies, VS-5584 has been shown to reduce the percentage of cancer stem cells and induce tumor regression in taxane-resistant models. Verastem expects to initiate a Phase 1 dose escalation trial in patients with advanced solid tumors and lymphomas year-end 2013.

About Verastem, Inc.

Verastem, Inc. (NASDAQ:VSTM) is discovering and developing drugs to treat cancer by the targeted killing of cancer stem cells. Cancer stem cells are an underlying cause of tumor recurrence and metastasis. Verastem is developing small molecule inhibitors of signaling pathways that are critical to cancer stem cell survival and proliferation: FAK, PI3K/mTOR and Wnt. For more information, please visit www.verastem.com.

Forward-looking statements:

This press release includes forward-looking statements about the Company's strategy, future plans and prospects, including statements regarding the development of the Company's compounds, including defactinib, VS-4718 and VS-5584 and the Company's FAK and diagnostic programs generally, the timeline for clinical development and regulatory approval of the Company's compounds, the expected timing for the reporting of data from ongoing studies, the structure of the Company's planned clinical trials and the Company's ability to fund operations. The words "anticipate," "appear," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "predict," "project," "target," "potential," "will," "would," "could," "should," "continue," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. Each forward-looking statement is subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statement. Applicable risks and uncertainties include the risks that the preclinical testing of the Company's compounds and preliminary data from clinical trials may not be predictive of the results or success of later clinical trials, that data may not be available when we expect it to be, that the Company will be unable to successfully complete the clinical development of its compounds, including defactinib, VS-4718 and VS-5584, that the development of the Company's compounds will take longer or cost more than planned, and that the Company's compounds will not receive regulatory approval or become commercially successful products. Other risks and uncertainties include those identified under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and in any subsequent SEC filings. The forward-looking statements contained in this presentation reflect the Company's current views with respect to future events, and the Company does not undertake and specifically disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

Source: Verastem, Inc.

Verastem, Inc.
Brian Sullivan, 617-252-9314
bsullivan@verastem.com